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ILLUSTRATED AND DESCRIPTIVE

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OF

PURE BRED FOX HOUNDS

OF THE

BLUE GRASS KENNELS

SERENA, LA SALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

R. H. POOLER, PROPRIETOR

PREFACE

IN the few remarks I wish to make I cannot express my ideas and opinions in better form or fewer words than to quote from the Badminton Library:

“The breeding of hounds, perhaps even more than the breeding of horses, is a lottery. This is partly so because more varied qualities are necessary in a hound than in a horse. The latter (we are now speaking of thoroughbred horses, to which, in this consideration, hounds can only be compared) fulfills the chief object of his being if he can gallop and is sound; but the hound must possess *nose, stoutness, speed, courage* and a number of *valuable qualities* which may be briefly summed up under the head of *intelligence*. If a hound be handsome so much the better, of course, *but the best hound is the one that works best*, not the handsomest. *Nose* and *stoutness*, or dead gameness, are the *two* things which the breeder of hounds should first of all seek to obtain, and experience shows that no two attributes are more distinctly hereditary. The beginner, therefore, should disregard all ideas of pleasing his eyes and breed exclusively from the best nosed and stoutest (or gamest) hounds of both sexes, irrespective

of size and appearance. Of the perfect hound it is not easy to better Somerville's description in verse:

" His rush-grown tail
O'er his broad back bends in ample arch.
On shoulders clean upright and firm he stands.
His round, cat feet, straight hams and widespread thighs
And his low, drooping chest confess his speed,
His strength, his wind, or on the steepy hill
Or far extended plain; on every part
So well proportioned that the nicer skill
Of Phidias himself can't blame thy choice.
Of such compose thy pack."

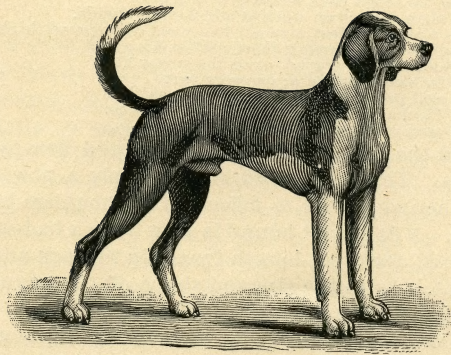
The poet's demand that he shall stand upright and firm is wise; he must be straight on his legs. The widespread thighs imply a powerful *back* and *loins*, that, in fact, the hound *is good to follow*. The shoulders besides being clean must be well sloped. A flat-sided hound is sure to be a bad-winded one. Speed and strength alike call for great length from hip to hock and as little as possible from hock to foot. As to the size and shape of the hound's head, *that is the best that is oftenest well to the fore on the line of the fox*.

With these remarks I leave the reader to judge of my hounds by the following cuts of a few of them made by the best engravers from fine photographs of each dog.

Yours fraternally,

SERENA, ILL.

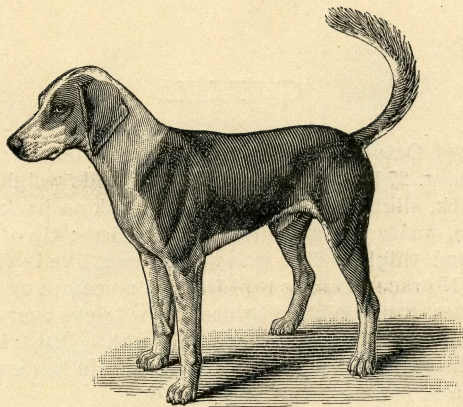
R. M. POOLER



CULL

CULL

CULL was whelped October 1, 1885, by Flash and out of Trinket 1st; is 22 inches at the shoulder, 27 inches chest girth, 48 pounds weight; a racy built fellow, well ribbed back, slightly arched; in color black on back, white ring neck, white stripe in face, white feet and lower half of legs; tip of tail white, lemon ears, sides, flanks and thighs. Not many foxes can live in front of him to exceed three hours. No race too long for him and no company too fast. He is at the front at all times, can teach old hunters new tricks every day and laugh at the wiley fox, for he knows his cunning full well. CULL is of the Goodman strain, a cross of the Maupin and Robinson dogs. He is a good stud dog, runs nothing but a fox, and is a big scout and hunter.



COLONEL

COLONEL

COLONEL was whelped October 15, 1887, by Flash, out of Hatty; is half-brother to CULL; in color and markings the same; $21\frac{1}{2}$ inches at the shoulder; $25\frac{1}{2}$ inches chest girth; 45 pounds weight; is a very smooth, hard, stylish, high-headed fellow, a dashy runner, and one of the biggest scouts and hunters. No woods too big for him. A No. 1 start dog; runs nothing but foxes; is a lead dog in any company; will drop most any pack if not of the best and dashy hunters. He is a race horse from the word Go to the finish. He is one of the best ribbed dogs, with a strong arched back; has proven himself one of the very best stud dogs; has some youngsters that are very fast and stylish hunters. Not many foxes can live long in front of COLONEL.



BALL

BALL

BALL was whelped Nov. 26, 1884, by Rufus, out of White-eyed Emma. BALL is 21 inches high at shoulder, $27\frac{1}{2}$ inch chest girth, 53 pounds weight; is white in color with a black saddle-mark on back and dark rich lemon-colored ears and spots on body. BALL is one of the best muscled hounds I have ever seen; has a big bone with a decided arched back; ribbed clear back and a powerful loin; has round, cat-like feet, as hard and tough as iron. BALL has been owned in Kentucky and Missouri; ran and bred in both states: was a fox dog in any spot or place, and has proved himself one of the best stud dogs in America. Runs nothing but a fox; a big scout and hunter; one of the best start dogs, and plenty of heels for any company.

TROOP

(Have no picture of Troop)

TROOP was whelped in April, 1887, by W. S. Walker's Scott. and out of his Lill. Scott was by Walker's famous Old Mack, who is now owned by Captain T. H. Craig, of Marshall, Tex. TROOP is a *pure-bred Walker*; stands 23 inches at shoulder; 28 inches around the chest; is white and black in color, with tan markings; coarse, wiry, thick hair, with a nice brush to tail; is a big-boned, powerful built fellow; has the very best of feet; runs nothing but a fox; as true as steel—has heels enough to run in any pack. No race is ever too long for TROOP or too often; he is a repeater; runs a trail honest, true and with very few losses; has good nose and plenty of mouth. Mr. Walker claims him to be one of the very best stud dogs he has known and thoroughly tested; has been bred to many, and has some good young fox dogs in Kentucky. I consider him a valuable cross on my smaller bitches, and for stud purposes I consider him as good as this country can produce.

CULL
BALL
COLONEL
TROOP

In the Stud; \$25.00 for service of either dog. No charge for board or care of bitches. A return service free if not in whelp.



TRINKET

TRINKET

TRINKET is a full litter sister to Cull; white in color, with lems on ears and black spot on body; stands 23 inches at shoulder; a fine, stylish looker, and has much style in the field; is a fine scout, hunter and start dog; hunts nothing but a fox; has one of the very best of keen noses; a great trailer and a good pack dog, and is a stayer to the end of any race. She has proved herself a fine brood bitch, as she has some of the very best of youngsters now doing fine work; all are fox dogs from the ground up.



BALLEY

BALLEY

BALLEY, whelped in April, 1887; by Harry, out of Alice; is a white bitch, with lemon ears and spot at root of tail; she stands 20 inches at shoulder; 45 pounds weight; is a strong, close-made, powerful-built bitch; good bone and feet, and thick, wiry hair; is one of the gamest bitches that ever ran a fox; has plenty of heels: no race is ever too long for her. She is a stayer and a repeater, a very fast mouther and has a good nose; runs a trail close and true and with no losses. She is a fine brood bitch, and has some of the very best of youngsters now in the field; all are hunters and game to the finish.



KITSY

KITSY

KITSY, whelped in February, 1889, by Fiddler out of Mollie; is a white bitch with lemon ears and lemon markings on body; beautifully marked; stands 21 inches at shoulder; 45 pounds weight; a strong, close-made bitch, with plenty of hair and brush to tail; is very heely, and a fast one; runs nothing but a fox; is a big hunter and scout; is a fast barker and runs a trail true and close. She is a fine breeder, and has one litter now that are all good ones and fast. KITSY is full of hunt and gameness, and runs a fox to *kill*.



WHITE EYES

WHITE-EYES

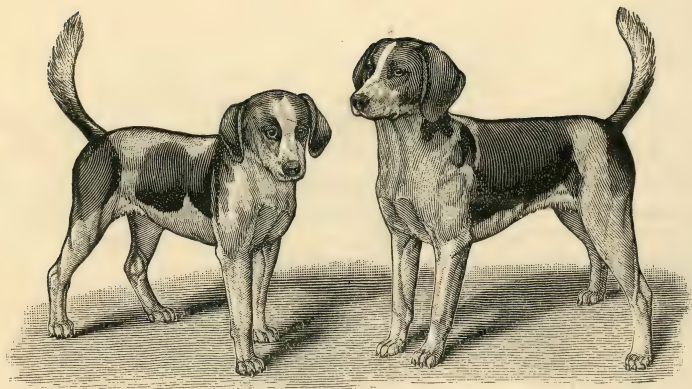
A dog by Ball, out of Trinket; 11 months old when this picture was taken; stands 23 inches; is a race-horse built fellow, well and strongly made, with plenty of bone and muscle; has white or "glass" eyes, lemon ears and spots on body shaded with black; runs well and fast for one of his age; has the making of a good one. He is a racy-looking hunter, a stayer and a fine trailer for one of his age.



BARNEY

BARNEY

A dog by Cull, out of Alice: 10 months old when this picture was taken; is a Cull-marked dog in color; stands 24 inches at shoulder; 60 pounds in weight; a big-boned, powerful built fellow, very active and light on his feet for one of his size; has a thick, long coat of hair, with a big brush, and runs and hunts well; will make a fine hunter and looker when fully matured. He is one of the best made all around big hounds I have ever seen.



RANTER AND BEAUTY

RANTER AND BEAUTY

Two pups, 8 months old when this picture was taken; by Ball, out of Balley; they are white, with lemon ears and markings on body shaded with black. Ranter is $21\frac{1}{2}$ inches at shoulder; 26 inches chest girth; has big bone, thick, coarse hair and nice brush; a big scout and hunter, and runs a fox to kill; is a powerful built young dog. Beauty stands 20 inches; a very stout-made bitch; plenty of bone and muscle; has heels and speed enough to place her in any company; is a big scout and hunter. The couple are a very taking and handsome pair of hounds.

General History of the Kentucky Pure Bred Red Fox Mound

In previous pages can be seen pictures of a few of these superb hounds. The pictures are true to life, and made exact copies of photographs, and show markings and general looks and make-up of the dogs. They average $21\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height at shoulder, 45 to 50 pounds in weight; have rather short, thin ears; long, strong bodies; small, intelligent-looking heads; rather long, clean necks, very strongly made, and with very best of cat-like feet. Most of them have a thick close and rather long wiry coat of hair, with a decided brush to tail, and as a rule are tough, hardy fellows. No amount of water, ice, sleet or cold affects them. These fox hounds were secured by me in Kentucky at a great expense, and are the results from long and careful breeding by some of the best and most noted hunters in Kentucky—General Maupin, W. S. Walker, W. C. Goodman,

B. F. Robinson and others. My dogs are direct descendants from some of the best hounds Kentucky and Maryland have ever known. Their breeding traces back for over thirty years through some of the most noted and worthy fox hounds this country has ever known. They are the best *money* and long, careful breeding could produce by such noted hunters and houndsmen as above. They are stayers and hustlers; no fox too fast for them; no race too long; are strictly fox killers. Any fox must go to earth or be caught. They run a fox to kill. Each and every dog or pup sold guaranteed to be as represented.

R. M. POOLER,
Proprietor of Blue Grass Kennels, SERENA, ILL.

